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**Stanisław Juszczak**  
Editor in Chief

# The New Educational Review

## Editor's Preface

The first number of *The New Educational Review* in 2009 is the seventeenth issue of our journal since the start of its foundation in 2003. In this issue there are mainly papers from: Poland, the Czech Republic, the Slovak Republic, Hungary, Slovenia, Turkey, and Iran, because our journal is open for presentation of scientific papers from all over the world. I am very happy to inform our Readers that since January 2008 *The New Educational Review* has been in the international data base EBSCO as well as in January of 2007 it was selected by the Editorial Development of Thomson Scientific in Philadelphia for coverage in the Social Sciences Citation Index (SSCI).

In the present issue the editorial board have proposed the following subject sessions: Social Pedagogy, Pedeutology, Technology of Education, Special Pedagogy, Chosen Aspects of Psychology, Sociology of Family, and Chronicle.

The subject session "Social Pedagogy" starts with an article by Anna Nowak and Ewa Bielska which presents investigating selected aspects of pathology in educational institutions. Ewa Ogrodzka-Mazur shows the results of research that concern: (1) the values appreciated by learners from final classes of upper-secondary schools as significant determiners of their feeling of identity, (2) the relation between global culture and forming the youth's patriotic attitudes and their identification with their homeland, (3) the relation between consumer society and the youth's readiness to undertake civil activity and to sacrifice personal interests for others. In the article by Teresa Wilk there are presented the ways in which people created theatre to cater for their needs over the centuries, how they have made use of it and how it may be of help to them today in their daily lives. Alicja Żywczok focuses on the meaning of the introspectional research attitude and the discourse in the scientific life of universities, as well as, expose a connection between such a personal feature as courage to present one's scientific opinions and the authority of people of science. The results of the part of the

biographical research presented in the article may be a valuable proposal for bringing up children and the youth in the apotheosis of science and in criticism towards its heritage. Alina Szczurek-Boruta assumes, that community in the culture of individualism strengthens the individual and the individual's development. In the first part of the study the author presents theoretical assumptions of her consideration, in the second part – results of the conducted research actions concerning the meaning of confidence and solidarity in the life of young people, in the third part she formulates conclusions. From the philosophical point of view and opinion of Hungarian people Sándor Karikó concentrates on the concepts of Europeanism, conformity and youth. Jelena Petrucijová analyses the changes of human identity (individual and group) in the context of cultural diversity. In her opinion ethnocentrism and cultural relativism are contrary approaches towards otherness, which is a constitutive element of our identity. Emin Atasoy presents the construction and use of a free word association test for revealing the scientific conceptual structures of 8th grade students, concerning geographical and environmental stimulus words. With the help of a test four groups of students from four schools – two in Turkey and two in Bulgaria were comparatively studied. Hana Lukášová focuses on the problem of life quality of children in the education and teaching process at school. In the article of Mitja Krajncan and Boštjan Bajželj the main characteristics of professional relationship and methods of work that enable to develop and attain the adequate professional relationship are presented. Sengul Cangur and his co-workers describe the results of a study, which was performed among faculty members working at Eskişehir Anadolu University using their personal evaluations, in order to identify the factors affecting the job satisfaction levels of faculty members. Katarina Luptáková points to some problems in contemporary society which are the result of social changes after 1989. She denotes these problems as a crisis of values, which impacts on people's subjective happiness as well as the total stability of society. Marek Walancik brings up the problem of trauma connected with the battle situation on the example of soldiers who are stationed on the mission in Iraq.

In the subject session "Pedeutology" Hanife Akar shows an in-depth understanding of the impact of Foreign Language Teacher Training Colleges (FLTTC) on teacher candidates' learning and development, as described by the participants, and the challenges that FLTTC faced during its early development process. On the basis of their long term experience from cooperation with a group of primary school teachers Alena Hošpesová and Marie Tichá discuss the concept of pedagogical competences needed in mathematics education, the possibilities of their cultivation and development and qualified joint reflection as a competence and as a way

to competence cultivation. In their article Jitka Šimičková-Čížková and Bohumil Vašina provide a comparison of criteria for the quality of life as subjectively identified by members of three professional groups: (female) teachers, police officers and office workers. The results show the level of satisfaction with the teaching profession and with the quality of the respondents' private lives. Beata Pitula and Hanna Gawonicz analyse the multidimensional teacher-pupil relation based on principles of selected contemporary pedagogical trends. The basis constitutes the background for the reflection over dialogue as a tool and a method of counteracting the social marginalization of youth.

In the subject session "Technology of Education" Ewa Bochno elaborates on the relations between a student and a lecturer in the general cultural context. She focuses on one of the forms of activating students, namely through a student scientific conference. In her research study Lenka Ďuricová deals with self-assessment by university students and shows the significant influence of self-concept on achievement motivation, motivation for creativity and partially also on academic achievements of adolescent. Yuksel Goktas with co-workers investigates K-12 teachers' ICT competence, the difference in teachers' ICT competence based on their demographic characteristics, and factors that have impact on their ICT competences. Ismail H. Demircioglu analyses and compares the questions asked in history exams at different secondary schools in two cities of Turkey, in terms of the stages of cognitive domain of Bloom Taxonomy. Zdena Lustigová with her co-workers describes how a scientifically exact and problem-solving-oriented remote and virtual science experimental environment might help to build a new strategy for science education which forms a unified body of information and knowledge in both a collaborative and constructivist way. Pavol Odaloš and Miriam Kubinska describe the conventional and unconventional perspectives of teachers on the Slovak language course books. In order to study the processes related to learning Štefan Kováčik introduces the '*coefficient of learning with understanding*', the '*coefficient of improving fine motor skills of hand*', and the '*coefficient of revealing*' concepts when reading pictures. The presented coefficients give a very brief evaluation of the difficulty of curriculum in the case of a standard class.

The subject session "Special Pedagogy" contains a contribution by Małgorzata Gil who describes the social perception of children with intellectual disabilities and the institutions established for the care of them in Poland. She argues that placing children into full-time institutions results in discrimination against them.

In the subject session "Chosen Aspects of Psychology" Katarzyna Markiewicz characterizes the dynamics of changes in executive function in autistic children during their middle and late childhood. The executive function relates to the ability

of self-regulation including attention, motor reactions, resistance to distractions and delay of gratification. In her article Teresa Borowska proves a thesis that there is a close connection between emotional resources of young people and the cognitive style presented by them. The researches were carried out in Poland and in Norway, and the participants were students of junior schools, secondary schools and universities.

The subject session “Sociology of Family” contains one article by Katarzyna Juszczuk, who describes the relations between a stepfather and a stepson in the sociological case study.

We hope that this edition, like previous ones, will encourage new readers not only from the Middle European countries to participate in an open international discussion. On behalf of the Editors’ Board I would like to invite representatives of different pedagogical sub-disciplines and related sciences to publish their texts in *The New Educational Review*.